

Ministry of the Solicitor General

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MEMORANDUM TO: All Chiefs of Police and
Commissioner Thomas Carrique
Chairs, Police Services Boards

FROM: Richard Stubbings
Assistant Deputy Minister
Public Safety Division and Public Safety Training Division

SUBJECT: **Extension for Community Safety and Well-Being
Planning Deadline**

DATE OF ISSUE:	April 24, 2020
CLASSIFICATION:	General Information
RETENTION:	Indefinite
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PRIORITY:	Normal

I would like to provide you with an important update on Ontario's modernized approach to community safety and well-being in light of the COVID-19 outbreak.

As you may know, on January 1, 2019, amendments to the *Police Services Act* (PSA) came into force, which mandate every municipality in Ontario to prepare and adopt a community safety and well-being (CSWB) plan.

As part of these legislative requirements, municipalities must consult with chiefs of police and police services boards or detachment commanders and other various sectors, including health/mental health, education, community/social services and children/youth services, as they undertake the planning process. As previously communicated, municipalities had two years from the in-force date to prepare and adopt their first CSWB plan (i.e., by January 1, 2021).

In order to support our municipal, policing and community partners during this emergency, on April 14, 2020, the government passed the *Coronavirus (COVID-19) Support and Protection Act, 2020*, which amends the PSA to allow the Solicitor General to extend the deadline to prepare and adopt CSWB plans. The amendments came into force immediately upon Royal Assent.

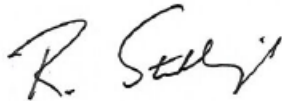
The amendments allow the Solicitor General to prescribe a new deadline past January 1, 2021, which will help ensure municipalities are able to meet the legislative requirements and complete their CSWB plans.

This extension will ensure municipalities, police services and local service providers can continue to dedicate the necessary capacity and resources to respond to the COVID-19 outbreak, while also providing adequate time to effectively undertake consultations, work collaboratively with partners, and develop meaningful and fulsome plans following the provincial emergency.

The ministry will work with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, as well as the City of Toronto, to determine an appropriate new deadline that will be set by regulation at a later date. We will continue to keep our stakeholders updated on this process.

I thank you for your commitment to supporting the safety, health and well-being of Ontarians and appreciate your continued support as we move forward with this modernized approach to CSWB together. If you have any questions, please contact Tiana Biordi, Community Safety Analyst at Tiana.Biordi@ontario.ca or Steffie Anastasopoulos, Community Safety Analyst, at Steffie.Anastasopoulos@ontario.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Stubbings'.

Richard Stubbings
Assistant Deputy Minister
Public Safety Division and Public Safety Training Division